

**In the Claims:**

1-2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The system board of claim 13, wherein said ports are substantially functionally identical.

4. (Original) The system board of claim 3, wherein said ports are USB ports.

5-6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) The system board of claim 13, further comprising a peripheral device operationally connected to said inward-facing port.

8. (Original) A host device comprising the system board of claim 13.

9. (Original) The host device of claim 8, wherein the host device is a computer.

10. (Original) The host device of claim 8, wherein the host device is one of the group consisting of a network router, a TV set top box and a mobile device.

11-12. (Canceled)

13. (Original) A system board comprising a connector that includes:
- (a) a first port situated at an exterior edge of the system board and facing outward from said exterior edge; and
  - (b) a second port, facing inward to an interior of the system board.
14. (New) The system board of claim 13, wherein said second port faces inward to accommodate a peripheral device that is electrically connected to the system board only via said second port.
15. (New) The system board of claim 13, wherein said first and second ports face in respective first and second directions that are parallel to the system board.
16. (New) The system board of claim 15, wherein said first and second directions are opposite directions.
17. (New) The system board of claim 13, wherein said connector further includes:
- (c) a mechanism, separate from said ports, whereby said connector is attached to the system board.
18. (New) The system board of claim 7, wherein said peripheral device is electrically connected to the system board only via said inward-facing port.